

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:OEXC, UR (AHERN, JAMES F.)

SUBJECT: EXCHANGES: VISIT OF AHERN

1. DEPARTMENT WAS INFORMED BY CONGRESSMAN MARIO BIAGGI OF NEW YORK JANUARY 29 THAT AHERN WILL VISIT USSR IN FEBRUARY AND WISHES TO EXCHANGE IDEAS WITH OFFICIALS OF MOSCOW AND LENINGRAD POLICE DEPARTMENTS AND OFFICIALS OF KGB. CONGRESSMAN BIAGGI SAID HE WROTE TO EMBASSY AND CONGEN REQUESTING ASSISTANCE BUT IS CONCERNED AS AHERN'S DEPARTURE DATE IS IMMINENT.

2. AHERN IS RETIRED POLICE CHIEF OF HEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT, AND IS NOW DIRECTOR OF INSURANCE CRIME PREVENTION INSTITUTE, A PRIVATE NON-PROFIT AGENCY DEALING IN CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION, SPECIFICALLY IN AREA OF WHITE COLLAR CRIME. AHERN IS AUTHOR OF BOOK, "POLICE IN TROUBLE: OUR FRIGHTENING CRISIS IN LAW ENFORCEMENT," WHICH HE SAYS IS WIDELY USED AS TEXT IN POLICE SCIENCE COURSES THROUGHOUT US.

3. AHERN PLANS TO LEAVE NEW YORK BY AEROFLOT ON FEBRUARY 4, CHARTER FLIGHT 5312, AT 9:00 A.M., ARRIVING IN LENINGRAD AT 4:00 P.M. ON FEBRUARY 5, AND REMAINING THROUGH FEBRUARY 7. HE THEN PLANS TO TRAVEL BY TRAIN TO KALININ ON FEBRUARY 8, UNCLASSIFIED

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STAYING THROUGH FEBRUARY 9, WHEN HE WILL TAKE OVERNIGHT

TRAIN TO MOSCOW. HE WILL REMAIN IN MOSCOW THROUGH FEBRUARY 12 BEFORE FLYING TO NEW YORK. AHERN WOULD APPRECIATE ANY APPOINTMENTS WHICH CONGEN CAN ARRANGE ANY TIME FEBRUARY 6-7 AND WHICH EMBASSY CAN ARRANGE ANY TIME FEBRUARY 10-12. HE WILL BE AT LENINGRAD HOTEL IN LENINGRAD, INTOURIST MOTEL IN KALININ, AND ROSSIYA HOTEL IN MOSCOW.

4. WHILE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF AHERN'S VISIT IS PLEASURE, HE WISHES VISIT WITH SOVIET LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES. HE IS ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN AREAS OF WHITE COLLAR CRIME, ORGANIZED CRIME AND DRUG TRAFFICKING, AND METHODS USED TO DETECT AND INVESTIGATE CORRUPTION AND OFFICIAL MISFEASANCE. AHERN HAD SIMILAR DISCUSSIONS WITH POLICE OFFICIALS IN ROME, PARIS AND LONDON WHILE POLICE CHIEF IN NEW HAVEN.

5. AT THEIR DISCRETION, CONGEN AND EMBASSY MAY WISH TO SUGGEST TO AHERN THAT INSTITUTE OF SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS OR USA INSTITUTE MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE ORGANIZATION THROUGH WHICH TO EXPLORE HIS INTERESTS IN APPOINTMENTS WITH SOVIET OFFICIALS. KISSINGER

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